

# LUDGATE

*What it is : Not what it was.*

OR,

A full and clear Discovery and  
Description of

The *Nature and Quality*  
*Orders and Government*  
*Duties of Officers*  
*Benefits & Priviledges*  
*Fees and Charges* of that Prison.

Also an exact Catalogue of the *Legacies* now belonging to the said Prison, the Names of the several Donors, and the persons appointed to pay them.

Very useful and profitable to all sorts of persons, especially in London, whether

**CREDITORS or DEBTORS.**

---

Humbly presented to the Right Honorable  
**THOMAS ALLEN**, Lord

Mayor of this Honorable City,

By M. Johnson, Typograph. *a late Prisoner there.*

---

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To the Right Honorable  
**THOMAS ALLEN,**  
Lord Major of this Honorable  
City of *LONDON*.

May it please your Lordship,

**K**ing David (that holy man, great  
Prophet, and good Magistrate)  
longed for, and accepted of a  
Bottle of Water from his three  
Worthies, drawn out of the Well at the Gate  
of Bethlèhem, which was then the Quar-  
ters of the Philistines his enemies, though  
he drank it not, but poured it forth before  
the Lord as an offering, to quench the thirst  
of his droughey Army; I hope, my Lord,  
his Exam<sup>l</sup> may (in some part) be an in-  
centive to your Lordship to accept of this  
small Tract presented unto you by one Un-  
worthy, though you read it not, which was  
by him collected during his sad Restraint  
and Captivity within the stone walls and

## The Preface.

iron grates of a Prison, the pleasant Territories of a Goaler, but the Charnel-house to hide men ruined by their dislocated and broken fortunes.

It would (my Lord) be an act worthy your Honors owning, to inspect a little into the premises hereafter mentioned ; And I beseech you, my Lord, disdain them not for the indigency of the style (for he that wrote them wants Learning) but mind them for the Truths therein contained.

If your Honor thinks that a living Dog is better then a dead Lyon ; then let Compassion move your Lordship ( as God hath now planted you in Authority) to look upon the dying condition of living men in a Prison.

Your Lordship (perhaps) may be informed by the Goaler, that persons under the power of his Key want not for subsistence ; I do affirm (my Lord) that such an assertion is a notorious falshood ; and, that if it lay in his power, the Prisoners of Ludgate would be of all prisoners the most miserable.

My Lord, it would add Excellency to your Worth, and Eternity to your Memory, would you but according to your Honors  
power



## The Preface.

power and wisdom, endeavor the finding out where those noble and great Legacies are buried, and in whose hands they died, which formerly belouged to that Prison, Generations yet to come would finde reason to engrave your Action in Golden Characters.

When your Lordship views the Revenues of the Keeper to arise from nothing to six or seven hundred pounds per annum, it will amaze you; but if your Lordship considers, that two Turnkeys and a Butler do likewise raise their annuities to 2 or 300 l. a man, and that it is harassed out of the decaying Estates of poor men, I hope then it will be beyond your admiration.

My Lord, frequent Visitations of Prisons, by just and worthy Persons authorized to Examine Abuses therein, would (I humbly conceive) stop the torrent of their Avarice and Oppressions: Their Extortions being indeed the real cause why men are forced rather to Compound than pay their just Debts.

Two things I humbly crave of your Lordship, Pardon and Protection: Pardon for my boldness in presenting so mean

## The Preface.

*and frivolous a thing to so noble a Magistrate : Protection, because I have neither Rhetorique nor Eloquence to defend my self against the Adversaries malice. Truth and your Lordship must be herein both my Shield and Buckler.*

*Your Honors greater thoughts shall be no longer detain'd by reading of the meer Entities of*

My Lord ,

Your Lordships most  
humble and obedient  
Servant ,

*Marmaduke Johnson.*

Indgate Chappel,  
Nov. 7. 1659.

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*A short*

*A short Preface to the Citizens of London,  
of what degree or quality soever.*

Gentlemen;

**I**T is you of all men that are most concerned in the following premises, and therefore to you I thought it convenient to declare my Reasons for the publication thereof: It doth in it self concern each particular Member of this City, and all men that are Merchants or Traders in any way within this Commonwealth. The rich Citizen or Merchant it concerneth,

I. For that their way of Trade oftentimes is, to trust young beginners, that have but small Stocks, upon day, and if they prosper, they pay for their Credit; but if they fail, having imbealed the Stock intrusted with them, their Bodies are immediately forced to prison; this book shews you what you gain by that, proving what your Experience could not but tell you, *That prisons pay no Debts.*

To the Money-lender or rich usurer, it declares

II. That such as are layd in upon their account, have no reason to take care for the payment of debts, nor do they; for you shall finde they here meet with Charges and expences to spend what they have in their hands, and doe it for the most part, and are thereby disabled to return any Satisfaction.

To such who think men have sufficient in that prison to maintain them,

III. It sufficiently proves the contrary, fully acquainting them with what Benefits accrue to prisoners, which is not comparable to what indeed formerly they did receive.

*Thom.*

## *The Preface.*

Them who hereafter shall be prisoners there it informs,

IIII. What Fees and Charges they must expect to be lyable to and pay, their poverty or inability not considered, and the utmost of convenience they shall be partakers of during their imprisonment.

Them who against good Times do now adays withdraw their Charity,

V. It serves to undeceive, shewing the Legacies given, how they are bestowed, and the sad loss of their great donations, to invite all pious and good men to their former Charities and Liberalities.

Its principal end and intendment, being this in general, to shew the rich Creditor his common loss and hazard, the poor Debtor his common misery, and sufferings, and both of them the common gain and profit of Lawyers, Goalers, and their Under-substitutes.

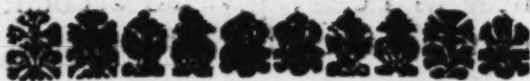
The prayer of the Author is, That the present Power would be pleased in their grave wisdoms to finde out a better way for satisfying of Creditors, an easier punishment for those Debtors willing to pay their Debts, and a harder for such who make Prisons their Sanctuaries to defraud the Creditors. This is the hearty desire of

*The meekest of Citizens, and  
humblest of your servants,*

Ludgate-Chappel,  
Nov. 7. 1659.

*Marmaduke Johnson.*

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# LUDGATE,

*What it is : Not what it was.*

I Have by Preface given the reasons inducing me to write this small Tract, which perhaps to some may seem impertinent, to others sufficient for the exhibiting of a matter of this nature : And that I may methodize the business, and model it to my best advantage, and for the better understanding of the Reader, (being poor, and deprived of such lights herein as are afforded by Records, and some Books of History and Survey) I will, so

B

near

2 *Ludgate, What it is :*

near as I can , give an account  
of these five Heads following ,  
*viz.*

I. *Of the Nature and Quality  
of the Prison.*

II. *of the Order and Govern-  
ment thereof.*

III. *Of the Officers thereof, and  
their several Duties.*

IV. *Of those Benefits and Pri-  
viledges , which are vulgarly  
known and enjoyed by the Pri-  
soners in the same Prison.*

V. *The Fees and other Charges  
belonging to the House , at a  
Prisoners Entrance and Exit.*

Of which briefly thus :

I. To give an account what  
the Prison was two hundred years  
since, I must be beholding to Re-  
port, which I assure was very cre-  
dible,

dible, and appears to me very reasonable, and is thus : That the Prison then consisted of those Rooms or Holes over, and belonging to the Gate, built by King *Lud*, about the year of the world 3895. but since beautified and enlarged by others; neither had it then so goodly an Entrance thereinto as now it hath, (nor half so many *Turn-keys*) but onely a little Door underneath the Gate towards *Ludgate-hill*, which still remaineth, though now quite useless.

When the Prison was in this condition, there happened to be prisoner there one *Steven Foster*, who (as poormen are at this day) was a Cryer at the Grate, to beg the benevolent Charities of pious and commiserate Benefactors

4 *Ludgate, What it is :*

that passed by : As he was doing his doleful Office, a rich Widow of *London* hearing his complaint, enquired of him what would release him ? To which he answered, Twenty pound, which she in charity expended ; and clearing him out of Prison, entertained him in her service, who afterward falling into the way of Merchandize, and increasing as well in wealth, as courage, wooed his Mistress, Dame *Agnes*, and married her.

Her Riches and his Industry, brought him both great wealth and honor, being afterwards no less then Sir *Steven Foster*, Lord Mayor of the Honorable City of *London*; yet whilst he lived in this great Honor and Dignity, he forgot not the place of his  
Capti-



Captivity, but mindeful of the sad and irksom place wherein poor men were imprisoned, bethought himself of enlarging it, to make it a little more delightful and pleasant for those who in after times should be imprisoned and shut up therein : And in order thereunto, acquainted his Lady with this his pious purpose and intention, in whom likewise he found so affable and willing a minde to do good to the poor, that she promised to expend as much as he should do for the carrying on of the Work; and having Possessions adjoyning thereunto, they caused to be erected and built, the Rooms and places following; that is to say, The *Paper-house*, the *Porch*, the *Watch hall*, the *Upper and Lower Lumbries*, the

6 *Ludgate, What it is :*

*Cellar , the Long-ward , and the Chappel for Divine Service ; In which Chappel is an Inscription upon the wall containing these words :*

*This Chappel was Erected and Ordained for the Divine Worship and Service of God, by the Right Honourable Sir Steven Foster, Knight, sometime Lord Mayor of this Honorable City, and by Dame Agnes his Wife , for the use and godly Exercise of the Prisoners in this Prison of Ludgate , Anno 1454.*

An act of so great piety and worth in a holy and religious Couple, is left without a parallel in these uncharitable times, which sooner sets the Stamp of Authority to Demolishments and Devastations, than gives the fa-  
vor

vor of an auspicious look towards the increase of piety, vertue, and godliness.

He likewise gave Maintenance for a Preaching Minister, which I suppose is in the hands of the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen, or some by their appointment, who to this day do allow a Minister for Sabbath-days, but what Sallary he hath is not certainly known.

This was not all, his Charity stopt not here, he likewise ordained what he had so built, with that little which was before, should be free for all Freemen, and that they providing their own bedding, should pay nothing at their departure for Lodging or Chamber-rent (as now they call it) which to many poor men be-

comes oftentimes as burdensome as their debts , and are by the Keeper detained in prison as for debt, onely for their fees, though discharged and acquitted of what he was committed for.

This worthy Gentleman (sure) had some prophetick inspection into the Times that after him should ensue , and we now see come to pass , and therefore it seemed needful to his judicious Eye to lay a Charm or strong Obligation, and an absolute fore-warning of the Master-Keepers that should after come there, not to take or receive any such money for Lodging, as is now daily exacted and extorted from poor men : which that it might be effectual and obligatory enough to the deterring o. them from the  
breach

breach thereof, was rendred in a style not ordinary, though very necessary, and is set down by *Stowe* in his Survey, to be in these words:

*For Water and Lodging there is nothing to pay,*

*As the Keeper shall answer at a dreadful Doomesday*

This Inscription engraven in Brass was set up (as a Monumental Testimony of the worthiness of the act) in the said Chappel, just by the former writing mentioned *page 6.* which some of the late Master-keepers (the introducer of the present Oppression of paying for Lodging) most basely and injuriously caused to be taken down, and set up over the outward street doore, with these words engraven on the other side,

sider, *This is the Prison of Ludgate*, absconding the former words in the wall, who could not but have a reflexion on his Conscience, whilst this Pillar of Truth and Antiquity stood staring in his face, and was so obvious to the Eye of the oppressed, and every honest beholder.

According to the Constitution of the prison by the said Sir *Steven Foster*, it continued many years, and was, (and is still, though falsely) accounted the best and freest prison in all *England*, and it was so then, for as Charity built the House, so Charity maintained the prisoners in the House: But since men of corrupt and seared Consciences have got the dominion, who neither feare God, nor will serve men in their  
genc-

generations, what is there, or what can there be expected from such men who make Gain both their God and Godliness, but the banishment of Charity and piety, the razing of Records, the defacing, obliterating, and pulling down the poor mans Pillar of Truth, and the horrid and inhumane spoiling and impoverishing of the miserable and oppressed?

The water I finde not to be altogether his gift, (which indeed is the onely thing that is free, though it may well be supposed by the former words in the Brasse, that he had made a provision for the prisoners in that kinde) for that I perused lately a Book wherein I found a Memorandum, That Sir *Robert Knowles* gave maintenance for the supply of the  
Prisons

Prisons of *Ludgate* and *Newgate* with water for ever, leaving it to the care of the Company of Grocers; and that if at any time any stop should be, that the water could not come to the places aforesaid (which God forbid) that then the Master and Wardens of the said Company shall repair to the Chamber of *London*, where the grand Instruments are kept, and to consult with the Lord Mayor, Court of Aldermen, and Chamberlain for the finding out some other way for the supply thereof. It is set down more largely in the Company of Grocers Journal-Book, to which I referre the Inquisitive.

II. As touching the Government of the said prison, it will appear best in the Description of the  
the



the Offices holden in the House, which I shall endeavour to make perspicuous, as well by the Orders by which they are Elected, as by some Explanatory Additions wherein there shall be occasion, therein discovering the government of the present, from that of the primitive Institution: And so as to this second Division I shall onely say this: That the Political Orders by which it is governed by its own Officers, are derivative from the power of the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen of the City of *London*; many of whose Orders I have seen the Originalls of; and if so be that I could procure Copies of them, they would prove neither much useful nor profitable to me or the Reader, to publish.

The

The persons intrusted with the Government of the Prison, and the Execution of the said Orders, are the Master-Keeper, the two Stewards, and the seven Assistants for the time being, who likewise have made, and do still make, as occasion is offered, several and respective Orders, touching the decent and quiet Government of the Prison, the ordering and civilizing of the Prisoners, and the punishment of misdemeanors and offences therein committed. I shall now pass from this, and come

III. To the several Offices therein holden, and to decypher (as near as I can) their Duties and proper Employments, *vi*z.

1. *A Reader of Divine Service.*
2. *The Upper-Steward, called, The Master of the Box.*
3. *The*

3. *The Under-Steward.*
4. *Seven Afsistants, that is, one for every day of the week.*
5. *A Running-Afsistant.*
6. *Two Churchwardens.*
7. *A Scavenger.*
8. *A Chamberlain.*
9. *A Running-Post.*
10. *The Cryers at the Grate, which are commonly six in number.*

*I. Of the Office of the Reader.*

**B**Ecause I finde the Office of Reader first set down in the publique Orders of the House, I therefore will in the first place exhibit his Duty, and manner of choosing. And the Orders by which he was appointed his Office and Imployment, I finde to be made in the Reign of our Sovereign

16 *Ludgate, What it is :*

vercign Lady Queen *Elizabeth*,  
(for before her time I suppose  
their Service was the Mass) and  
to be nominated and chosen  
thereunto by the Master-Keeper,  
Stewards, and Assistants for the  
time being successively, and not  
by common Vote at Elections as  
other Officers are: appertaining  
to the appointment and injuncti-  
on of whose duty, I finde two or  
three Orders, which I must be  
content onely to give the sum of,  
being denied the perusal of those  
kept privately, so as to take a  
transcript, & those which are pub-  
lick and commonly exposed, be-  
ing so obliterated, that from them  
I could not: But his duty was,  
To ring the Bell twice every day  
to Prayers (which is now fallen to  
the Officer, called *A Running-  
Assistant*,

: Not what it was. I

*Assistant*, for what reason I shall afterwards shew) which indeed is all the alteration which I finde in this Office from the primitive Institution thereof; which said *Reading Assistant* now ringing the Bell at ten in the Morning, and eight at Night, the people having likewise notice by the Churchwarden to repair to the Chappell, the Reader goeth into the Pew or Desk, provided in the Chappell for the same purpose, joyning to the Pulpit, where he readeth such Prayers, Confessions, Psalmes, Chapters, and singing Psalmes, as are appointed in a certain Book therefore given; for you must know; that the Common prayer is not here used now; according to the Appointment of the Instituters of the said Office) by reason of a prohibition by Sir R. T. when

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he was Lord Mayor, who took away or caused to be taken the said Book of Common-prayer formerly given and belonging thereunto. For the performance of which, he hath the allowance of two Shillings eight Pence *per* moneth, one peny of every prisoner at his first coming, if he payeth Sixteen pence for his Table-money, and a dish of Meat out of the Lord Mayors basket when it comes in, which by reason of a fault that lies in, I know not well who, but yet I guess, proved oftch a very empty one.

There hath formerly been a custome to ring a bell for the space of a quarter of an hour at nine of the clock at night, for all strangers to depart the prison, which did belong to the Reader to do, but that bell hath been long down, and strangers are now warned to depart  
by

by him that is called the Chamberlain; of which hereafter.

II. *Of the Upper, Steward, or Master of the Box.*

**T**He authority of him that is Master of the Box, is by the prisoners esteemed almost Equal to the Master-Keeper, and by all the House respected with a respect befitting him, whose state and Courtesies to and for all men (to my own knowledge) hath exceeded, and doth far exceed any with whom I have had yet to deal.

The Order by which he and the Under-steward are chosen, saith, that they shall choose (that is, the prisoners at such election) two honest and discreet persons, the one to be called *The Master of the Box*, the other *The Under-steward*, &c. To the Charge of which



Master of the Box is committed  
 the keeping of the several Orders  
 of the House, as well as all Ac-  
 counts of Money received upon  
 Legacies given for the relief of  
 poor prisoners. As for those given  
 for their *Redress* shall afterwards  
 point to *Star Chamber* or *Caryb-  
 dis* upon ground in which they misear-  
 ry before they come to the ap-  
 pointed haven where the Donors  
 intended their undertaking, also the  
 distribution of all bread or other  
 provision sent in by the eight hono-  
 rable the Lord Mayor or by any o-  
 ther private persons. And (which  
 is the chief and most material) the  
 Money which is begg'd at the  
 Grates by the Doyers, with the  
 Garbages or Table money (as it is  
 commonly called) payd by every  
 prisoner at his Entrance, which  
 sixteen pence, and is bestowed  
 weekly



weekly for bread, Candles, and other necessary Charges belonging to the House, except what is paid out of it for Officers Salaries, as is, and shall be shewed in their proper places. He hath also a List or Roll of all Prisoners, as well those that are upon the Charity, as those that are not, to whom (with the assistance of the Assistant for the day) he giveth their proportion and allowance of bread or other provisions according as by Order and custom of the House is appointed. The Gifts likewise of Market people, Butchers, Fishmongers, or any other benevolent or charitable person, which is taken by the Clerk of the Market, and brought in by him, or who is the Poste, is delivered to him for the Under Steward, for which they give receipts, and by either of them

in the presence of the Assistant for the day, is exposed to sale to the Charity-men as a Market: which Money so raised for such victualls or provisions is put into the Common Stock or Bank, and there remaineth till the Accompt day.

Once every Moneth there is an Election of Stewards, Assistants & Church-wardens, by the vote and consent of all the prisoners belonging to the House; for the other Offices are onely by nomination and appointment of the Master-Keeper, Stewards and Assistants: but you must know, that no offices chosen by Election or suffrage of the prisoners, elected for any longer time then one month, and if he be found honest, that is, a popular Man, then he is again chosen, and so many moneths together, but if otherwise, he is ejected,

ed, and another chosen in his  
stead: this Election is alwayes on  
a Saturday. The monday after this  
Election, is the Accompt-day,  
wherein the whole Moneys receiv-  
ed or gathered in the Boxes, as also  
Legacies given that Moneth (if  
any) are summ'd up by the said  
Master of the Box, Under-steward  
and Assistants, and the dividend of  
each Charity-man cast up; which  
done, the Master-Keeper of the  
prison (by order of his own ma-  
king) receiveth two shillings four  
pence out of every mans Charity;  
if the dividend amount to three  
shillings four pence to each man,  
otherwise he is to have but one  
shilling two pence for his moneths  
Lodging, and the rest to go on, to  
be paid at his being discharged  
from prison (all which is contrary  
to that former recited Distich ob-

ligatory, made by that good Foun-  
der and Benefactor, [Sir: Steven  
Foster.]

Here I may raise one Obser-  
vation, That the Godlers Creatures  
and Confidents, are the poor Māns  
Enemies and Charity-Robbers: :  
which you shall well perceive, if  
you observe, That all Charges (off  
and belonging to the House, as  
well ordinary and certain, as ex-  
traordinary and casual, are payd  
out of the common Stock of Cha-  
rity money: and those ordinary  
Charges are such, as payment of  
officers fees, and buying of bread  
for the Charity and ample men,  
(which Ample men are such as are  
not Entred upon the Charity)  
which is in the whole, one peny loaf  
every Sunday after his being one  
Moneth Prisoner, and likewise  
Candles for the use of the House

in places necessary; for the Table money, mentioned before, doth not answer that Charge by far, by reason of the Multitude of prisoners in the House: This kinde of Charge we grant to be good; Then Extraordinary Charges are, when any poor prisoner is sick, and is not able to supply his wants, or when any dieth, and is buried at the charge of the House, that is also good; but that which appears to me to be the most extraordinary, and most unreasonable payment, is, to the Turn key of the Prison, who receiveth twelve shillings *per* moneth out of the said Charity, for turning his Silver Key to let in the Gifts and Charity of the House (which God knows are very few,) as the Lord Mayors Basket, and the other Provision mentioned before; which twelve shil-

shillings, with what Salary is allowed the *Poste* for his pains in fetching it; I do (and so will a hundred men more beside) avouch to be as much as it is worth : All which Deductions and Payments made, with such as I shall mention hereafter, I have known when the remaining Divident to each Charity-man, hath amounted to no more then six pence *per man*, and indeed seldom more now adays; and I hope no sober man or Christian will judge that four pence in bread, and six pence in Money, can be a Competency sufficient to maintain a man a whole moneth, taking in withal that Allowance which cometh in by the Lord Majors basket. Some other matters also are pertinent to his Office, which as occasion serves, he doth perform with a pregnant reason,  
and

and a very commendable honesty, according to that Trust reposed in Him by the Charity-men, and the whole House. I shall next speak of

### III. *The Under-Steward.*

**T**ouching whose Duty and Office, there can no absolute alteration be made in any particular from that of the *Master of the Box*, he being indeed in power and form the same in the absence of the other, and his authority and actings of the same latitude and extent; for he is chosen as a Delegate or Adjutant to the former, to help him in the true and exact-keeping and stating of the Accompts, and for the writing out the same in the Accompt-Book every moneth; and in a word, to do all things in his absence, and to perform all those particular Duties  
men-



mentioned in the fore going Paragraph of the *Master of the Box*. I shall therefore end with them two, and come to

#### IV. *The Office and Duty of an Assistant.*

I Have made mention of seven several Assistants, that is, one for every day of the week, and there are so: but forasmuch as their office and duty is all one and the same without any alteration or difference, I shall make the description of one serve to delineate all the rest.

He that is an Assistant is chosen, as hath been said, every moneth by all the prisoners at an Election, next after the Election of the two Stewards; and by the Orders then read, is injoynd to the severall duties following, *viz.* To attend in



in the *Watch-hall* all his day, to see what strangers come to speak with Prisoners, and to call them down to them, and to attend for the changing money for the Cryers at the grates : which duty is now wholly neglected, also to set down in writing what Moneys or other Gifts, of what kinde soever, are sent in for the prisoners in his day, and what monys is given to the Boxes, and to keep an accompt thereof, and the same to charge the Stewards withal at the Accompt day, and to see the Accompts truly cast up, as well for all the prisoners as for themselves ( by which we see they ought to be Charity men ) and to see whether the charges of the House ordinary and extraordinary brought in by the Stewards, ought to be allowed upon Accompts : and that if he shall refuse  
to

to hold the said employment, being chosen thereto, then to forfeit one shilling for a fine to the use of the House, or to wear the Bolts or Shackles three days, or three nights, unless mitigated by the Master-Keeper, Stewards, and Assistants for the time being, or the major part of them: Thus far the contents of the Orders in general. Now he likewise hath power, either by assumption or consent, that if one Prisoner abuse another, or that a Prisoner abuse or wrong any stranger, to commit to the Stocks, Bolts, or shackle any such disturber or offender, without calling a Table of Officers for the publick adjudging of the same. You must note, that the time that every Assistant cometh into his Office, is at eight of the Clock at night, and so continueth till eight the next night;

night ; and the time of the Boxes opening is at five in the afternoon, and at nine at night. His duty for the day being performed, and day ended, it is his care (by some collateral order) to see the *Cellar* cleared by ten of the Clock of all Prisoners, and the Prisoners to be in their lodgings quietly and civilly, for which (by either an Order or Custom of their own constituting) six pence is allowed out of the Charity-money every night, and is accounted thus to be spent, two pence for the Assistant, two pence for the Master of the Box, and the other two pence allowed in money or drink to him that is the Running-Assistant, or to the Scavenger, for bearing two Candles before them (good pay for idle employment in a prison!)

Thus you see the sum of the  
Duty

Duty of an Assistant, I have purposely omitted the Magnificence of an Assistants going down the first night, with the flaming illumination of forty or fifty great Carriages, provided by the Prisoners, with the expence & charge which they were at therein, because it is lately laid aside, and I also judge it a matter both very vain and superfluous : And herein, I think, I have left out nothing of the Office and Duty of an Assistant, at least nothing which is material, but what will be taught them who shall come to that preferment. For Salary, I think the better sort of them take none, I am sure there is nothing allowed them, but I believe the poorer sort borrow of the Charity what they cannot pay, and so discount for their duty. I come now to handle

V. *The Office of Running-  
Assistant.*

**H**E that is so styled, attends upon the Cryers for changing of Mony, and also their Boxes at appointed hours, opens them at five in the afternoon, and at nine at night, sets up the Candles in their respective places, waits upon the Assistants and Stewards when they go to see the *Cellar* cleared of company after Evening Prayers, looks to the Clock, rings the Bell to Prayers, is the Cryer for sale of Markets to Charity-men, hath many other small Employments incumbent upon him, for which his Salary is four shillings eight pence *per* moneth, and two pence out of the sixteen pence paid by every Prisoner at his first coming. This Officer stands in  
D the

the choice of the Master-Keeper, Stewards, and Assistants, as their Prerogative, as I shewed before in treating of the Appointment and Nomination of the Reader. Now follows

*VI. The Office of the Church-wardens.*

**T**Here is a decorum observed in the number, though not in the quality, with the Churchwardens in Parishes, they having the Stock of the Parish in their hands, these having none at all. Two of the youngest Prisoners are nominated at every Election to that Office, for the moneth ensuing, who refusing to hold it, are fined four pence to the use of the House, and so by gradation of two, till some wanting money to fine, are forced to hold. He that first holds  
upon

upon such Nomination and Election, is styled the Upper Churchwarden, and hath no duty but only on Sabbath days; the other is Under Churchwarden, and is for all the week days to call to Prayers when the Bell is rung; their duty likewise being to set downe such of the Charity as comes not to Prayers, who should be therefore fined one peny, but that Order is now altogether neglected: He that performs his duty, hath at the Accompt-day for his reward one groat, and no more.

VII. *Of the Office of the Scavenger.*

**I**T is the Duty of the Scavenger to keep the House cleansed in all the several places and parts thereof: To him it belongeth properly to put the Bolts or Shackles



kles upon any Prisoner punished for the breach of Orders in the House, and to have of the offender one penny, the like of them that suffer the Stocks, at their release. He hath for his standing Salary, five shillings eight pence per moneth, two pence of every Prisoner at his coming in first, out of the sixteen pence Table-money by him paid; which, as is all the rest, is paid by the Master of the Box at the Account day.

#### VIII. *The Office of the Chamberlain.*

**T**HE Chamberlain is by single nomination of the Master-Keeper only, and neither by the Table of Assistants, nor by common vote; the reason is, because to him is committed the keeping and looking to of all the Bedding  
 : I and



and Linnen, which is the Master-Keepers; to him it belongs, to place men in Beds at their coming in, to furnish them with Sheets, for which he receives one shilling six pence; and pays to the Keeper at the rate of six pence for all Sheets used in the House; But then note, that Sheets afterwards are onely eight pence or twelve pence a pair, if you ly single, or with another: the Chamberlain is at the charge of the washing them into the bargain. He should, by Order of the House, make the Beds for all the Charity men, for which he should (by an Order made for his advantage) have two pence a moneth for his pains, which for a long time he hath received, though he never touches their Beds; but in the beginning it was not so. He warns all strangers to depart the House at

ten of the clock at night, which formerly was done by ringing of a Bell : he hath no House Salary, but as aforefaid, yet lives well thereupon, having most of his subsistence at the Master-Keepers, and is as his household servant.

*IX. The Duty of the Running-*

*Poste.*

**H**E that is Poste is chosen by the Table of Court, consisting of the Master Keeper, Stewards and Assistants, and his duty is to fetch in the Basket of broken meat from the right honorable the Lord Majors : to wayt upon the Clerk of the Market for such kinde of provision as he gets for prisoners of the Market people, which when brought home, is exposed to sale among the Charity, as in a Market, and he that bids most

most carries it : The reason is, because every one cannot partake of that little that is so sent, therefore he that hath the market, hath the less money, to prevent difference amongst the necessitous : The Clerk of the Market takes a Receipt for what he sends in, and so doe all that send in any provision : His business lies most abroad, and therefore called the Running-Poste; he hath four shillings per moneth Salary, one peny per moneth out of every charity mans dividend, and the like out of the sixteen pence Table-money before spoken of, and no other allowance whatsoever.

*X. The Office of the Cryers.*

**T**Here be six Cryers at the grates, which divide the week amongst them, and by their days

D 4

and

and their houres, as they have so ordered the business, that they have mutual time of begging allowed them : As for example : A Box is let down in the Hole at the Gate, at five in the afternoon, the man begs till about nine, and then it is taken up and open'd, and the *Master of the Box* takes an account thereof : in the morning the same Box is let down again, and the same man begs till twelve a clock ; then another Box is let down, and another man begs till two, then the same goes in again till five ; at which time the time the Box is open'd again, and the Cryer receives the fourth part of what is begged : The like decorum is held at the window toward *Blackfriers*, onely because of the little that is there, the Cryer hath half of what he gets. Thus go they by turns,  
and

and what they so crave, and how it is bestowed, I shall hereafter make appear in the Chapter of Priviledges.

IV. Having given an account of the several Officers of the House, and their respective Duties, it follows in order to treat of the *Priviledges & Benefits vulgarly known and enjoyed by the Prisoners*; and they properly consist in the Gifts and Legacies given by many worthy men and good Benefactors, the Arms of some of them, with their names, hang up in the Chapel at this day, and are most of them comprised in one entire Table which is likewise there: In the top of which (in good old Characters) is thus written:

The

*The Arms of our good Benefactors  
which giveth to the Relief of  
us poor men, in this Goal of  
Ludgate, Prisoners.*

The Catalogue of whose names I had thought to have exposed to view as they are there set down, but having (by a very strange providence) the sight of a book wherein was set down the Names of all the Benefactors, whose Donations are now paid unto the House, the several summes they gave, and the persons or Companies which do pay the same, I chose rather to take a Breviate thereof, and publish it for general satisfaction, and afterwards to give you an account how they now differ in the present disposing thereof, from the original intendment of the Donors, as by that Table before mentioned will appear. It is thus entituled :

*Legacies*

## Legacies and Ample-mony.

The Legacies bequeathed by good  
Benefactors deceased, for the  
most part yearly, and for ever,  
be as followeth.

In Thomas Gresham gave yearly  
Drothie house for ever, to be paid  
by the Chamberlain. 10 l.

Sir Roger Martin, by the Mer-  
cers. 2 l.

Sir John Peache, by the Grocers. 5 s.

Sir John Kinsworth, by the Fish-  
mongers 1 l.

Sir James Smith, by the Fishmon-  
gers 3 s. 4 d.

Mr. John Draper, by the Skin-  
ners 13 s. 4 d.

Sir Wil. Horn, by the Sakers 5 s.

Mr. Robert Ferrebras, by the Lea-  
ther-sellers 6 s. 8 d.

The



The Lady *Elizabeth Morris*, by the Armorsers *Hobbs 2000 10.*

Sir *William Peacock*, by the Haberdashers *1000 10.*

Mr. *Tho. Cottels* Tallow-chandler, gave to this House yearly for ever, a hind quarter of Beef and a peck of Oatmeal, by the Churchwardens of *St. Dunstons in the East*, rated at *1000 10.*

The Lady *Margaret North* gave yearly for ever in bread, 13 pence every Sunday, out of the Kings Head Tavern by *Newgate*, 2 l. 12 s

Mr. *Warner King*, by the Fishmongers *1000 10.*

Mr. *Will. Roper*, by the Parish Clerks *1000 10.*

Mr. *Tho. Dawson* White-baker, by the Churchwardens of *St. Ethelbrows* *1000 10.*

Mistress *Cocks* Widow, by the Salters *1000 10.*

*Mrs.*



Mrs. Margaret Dane Widow,  
gave 12 stone of Beef, and 8 dozen  
of bread, by the Ironmongers,  
containing 1 l.

Mr. John Haydon Alderman, by  
the Mercers 3 l.

The Lady Mary Ramsey, by the  
Treasurers of Christs Hospital.

10 s.

Mr. Peter Blundel, by the Sal-  
gers 2 l.

The same Mr. Blundel gave more  
by the Ironmongers 2 l.

Mr. John Bennet, by the Ar-  
morers 1 l.

Mrs. Halligrave Widow, by the  
Clothe-workers 5 s.

Mr. Robert Rogers by the Lea-  
therfellers 1 l.

Mr. Hugh Offley Alderman, by  
the Leatherfellers 5 s.

Mrs. Margaret Simcots Widow,  
by the Chamberlain, every nine

weeks

weeks in bread 21/5 s.

Mrs. *Joan Sambach* Widow, by the Churchwardens of St. *Brides*

Mr. *John Simmons*, by the Merchants 4 s.

Mr. *John Marsh*, by the Merchants 5 s.

Mr. *John Wooller*, by the Merchant-taylors 1 l.

*Rich. Shipsey* Yeoman, gave to be paid in ten years, by 5 s per year 2 l. 10 s

Mr. *William Parker*, by the Merchant-taylors 1 l. 10 s

*Rich. Jacob* Vintner, gave yearly to be paid for 257 yeares by *Joseph Hewet* Haberdasher, and *Sarah* his wife, or by their Heirs, out of the five Tenements in *Lincolns Inn Fields* 2 l.

Mr. *John Highlord* senior, Skinner, gave to be paid by twenty shilling

- 5 s. Shillings per year 5 l.  
 by Mr. Thomas Chapman Skinner,  
 sides by the Churchwardens of Saint  
 1 l. Pancras 6 s.  
 Mer. Mr. James Hodgson Vintner, by  
 4 s. the Churchwardens of St. Sepul-  
 Mer. chres 10 s.  
 5 s. Mr. John Kendrick, by the Dra-  
 Mer. pers, for the relief of one Prisoner  
 1 l. of the Company 1 l. 10 s.  
 ve to The Lady Mary Carey, Wife of  
 per the Lord Carey, by H. Rochford  
 10 s. her Executor 2 l.  
 Mer. John Facksey Merchant-taylor,  
 10 s. for the releasing a Prisoner out of  
 early his House, to be paid out of cer-  
 y Fain Lands in Moreclack in Berk-  
 d Sshire 1 l.  
 Gre Lancelot Andrews Lord Bishop  
 Lin of Winchester, gave two thousand  
 2 l. pounds, for purchasing of a hun-  
 Skin dred pound Land by the Year,  
 vent to be distributed in four kindes :  
 lling 1. Aged

1. Aged men. 2. Aged women.  
 3. Fatherless children and orphans.  
 4. For release and relief of poor  
 Prisoners out of the four prisons  
 in *London*, and one in *Southwark*;  
 Of which five pounds cometh to  
 this Prison yearly, the Thursday  
 before *Easter*, one half for relief,  
 the other for release of Prisoners,  
 now paid by Mr. *Shambrook* in  
*Colemanstreet*, Dr. *Salmon* in *Step-*  
*ney*, and Mr. *Jones* of the *Tem-*  
*ple* 5 l.

Sir *Ralph Freeman* Lord Mayor  
 of *London* in 1633, by the Com-  
 pany of Clothworkers 5 l.

From the Chamber of *London*,  
 in lieu of 250 l. this Prison is to  
 receive 1 l. 11 s. 3 d. the half of  
 3 l. 2 s. 6 d. the other half to  
 others : the Gift of Mr. *William*  
*Middleton* 1 l. 11 s. 3 d.

*John Stone* Haberdasher, some-  
 time

time living in *Bow Churchyard*,  
gave for ever out of a Tenement  
in *Bow-lane*, called the *White Grif-*  
*fin* 2 l.

It was paid till the year 1650.

In anno 1632. *Iohn Meredith* of  
*London*, Skinner, gave for ever to  
buy Coals every *November* year-  
ly, *Elizabeth* his Wife his Execu-  
trix. 1 l. 2 s.

Here I observe two things: First,  
That some whole Names are in the  
forementioned Table, are not set  
down in this Book of Legacies, out  
of which I took this Catalogue,  
for there is wanting Sir *Steven*  
*Foster*, Sir *Iohn Allen* Mercer, Mr.  
*Wyat*, &c. And seondly, That  
what Legacies are now belonging  
and paid to the Prison, are onely  
the later Gifts of Benefactors;  
those large Donations of Charity  
given before the Reformation, be-  
E ing

ing too full of Superstition, and looking with faces like the meritorious Gifts of Papists, and therefore thought good by Avarice and Covetousness to be oblivi-ated: Nor knew they a surer way to do it, that they might be utterly obscured from the eyes of after Ages, but by consulting (as it were) with their Religion and tender Consciences, who soon resolved them, That the wisest way would be to demolish the Idolatrous Tombs and Sepulchres of those best of men, and greatest of Benefactors, and to take from before the eyes of the Godly those Monuments of Brass, which spake onely of their good works and deeds, defacing them as vain-glorious, & pretending they would be more advantagious to a thriving State to have them exposed to sale.

The

The Sum of these known Legacies is about 70 l. but some of them I find are out of date, having run their full race and time out, therefore I do think 60 l. is the extent of what annually comes in. The smaller sort I finde to be rightly bestowed, that is, for the Relief of the Prisoners in bread, or otherwise. And those are commonly received by the *Master of the Box* : The greater Sums are bestowed for Release of Prisoners, as they call it : The way of Relief is to be understood, the supplying of them with necessaries, as victuals or money : That called Release, is thus : That when a poor man hath got his Discharge from both *Compters*, and run the Gantlope of Clerks Fees, and fobb'd Actions, whereby his small stock is utterly exhausted, and he hath not where-



with to run quite through the Regiment of Extortions, he stops at the doore. By the Turn-key is brought him a Bill of Fees to be paid (which I shall speak of when I come to treat of *Charges and Fees*) wherein Lodging leads the Van, which he not being able at present to pay, shall be detained until he either doth, or else give security to pay it, though perhaps his Creditors took his own Bond for twenty times a greater Sum: if he can procure no such security there he must lye until the next Quarter, or that some Legacy be brought by some Company, or other person, for to discharge Prisoners, and then by Petition to them presented, signed by the Keeper (which he doth for his own ends) very likely the man shall be immediately turn'd out.

Corruption



Corruption in some, and Policy in others, hath made it customary now, that these larger Gifts never become within the Prison, but are swallowed up in the Paper-Office by the Keeper, for Lodging and Fees (which is that *Scylla* or *Caribdis* I before spake of) contrary to the intendment of the deceased Donors.

I have heard it credibly spoken by a knowing and rational man, that these moneys (and much more than these) was at their appointed times used to be paid to the Stewards of the House, who kept the moneys in stock, and if a Prisoner lay there that might be discharged from his Creditor or Creditors, for the sum of three, four, or five pound, did by his easie Address procure the said money, and his discharge immediately followed.

*Note*, That Lodging was not then exacted *cum privilegio*, as now it is, the more the pity : But this I am confident of, that of this sixty pound a year, or thereabouts, there is not above Ten that the Prisoners taste of, the rest by that other Project is converted into Lodging-money, as I have sufficiently shewed.

Now I have begun to unlock the hid Treasures of *Ludgate*, I intend, according to my poor ability, to signifie what more I understand to be given them freely, and for their necessary Sustenance, and not to the use before spoken of.

To be upon the Charity of the House is the accounted benefit which a poor man receives, and that he is admitted unto by Petition, and shewing the Copy of his Freedom to the Master-Keeper,

two Stewards, and seven Assistants; and of this kinde there are about fifty in number, sometimes more, seldom less now adays, who partake of what Moneys is begg'd at the Grates, &c. as I shall demonstrate.

I gave you an account of six Cryers, and their maner and turns of Crying; and also that the Money by them begg'd, was put into the custody of the Master of the Box until the Accompt-day, and it is so; at which time it is cast up by the Stewards and Assistants, and after the charges of the House is taken out of it for that moneth, as the buying of Bread for the Charity-men, and Ample-men, (that is, such as are not upon the Charity) the buying of Candles, the paying of Officers their small Salaries, and other things incident

and necessary for the House, as I have shewed ; then I say, they in the next place cast it up into shares or dividents for each Charity-man ; which done, the Bell being rung , they come all up into the *Chappel*, where the Under Steward reads in the Accompt-book to this purpose : We the Stewards and Assistants, having perused the Accompt for this moneth, being such a day of the moneth, do finde that it hath pleased God to bestow upon us out of the Boxes , by good Benefactors ( the House charges being deducted ) the sum of eight pound eight shillings ( or the like ) to be divided amongst fifty Charity-men and women, which comes to three shillings four pence apiece, for which we bless God, and give thanks.

A man hearing this reade, would  
he

he not, being on the Charity, expect to receive it, think you? But stay, when he comes to the Master of the Box to have his share, he shall finde him to write thus in a Paper :

<i>Lodging</i>	2 s.	4 d.
<i>Poste &amp; Chamberlain</i>		3 d.
<i>Markets (perhaps)</i>		5 d.
		<hr/>
<i>Remains</i>		4 d.

This I have often found to be the Accompt, nay sometimes nothing at all in a moneth, when formerly every mans share hath come to sixteen, eighteen, or twenty shillings a moneth; and at a good time, as *Easter* and *Christmas*, it may be three or four pound apiece, therefore this may well be called *Ludgate, What it is : Not what it was.*

This is done, because with the  
Keeper

Keeper it is *sic volo, sic jubeo, &c.* though there is a pretence of an Order of the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen for his receiving it, but I could never see it : and if there be, it was granted when *Charity* did (as *Justice* should do) *run down like a mighty stream*, but the channel being now almost quite dried up, the banks thereof having been cut by the oppressing hand of Wars and Calamities, it is now high time for the present Lord Mayor and Court, to search into the reason of its granting, and to abrogate it, for poor mens lives are much concerned therein, to my knowledge; for three shillings four pence will go further with a sick and indigent man, then a groat or six pence will, especially in a Prison.

I will give you a short Example  
of

of an honest and charitable act of the Master Keepers, for which I think he had no Order of the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen: It pleased God to inflict sickness upon me after my being in Prison about a moneth or six weekes, I then not being upon the Charity, and being a very poor man, and altogether friendless (a poor wife and childe excepted) was at the Accompt-day allowed four shillings eight pence by the Stewards and Assistants, in consideration of my charge in my sickness, and my known poverty, which the Keeper understanding, took half of it for his Lodging, and left me the other to repair my broken and dislocated fortunes. I could give other like Examples of his kindness to Prisoners, but that is not here my business.

The



The freest Gift, and now most esteemed Benefit, is that of the Lords Mayors basket, which is twice (or thrice sometimes) in a week, and is divided amongst poor Prisoners : His Lordship likewise sends in light bread sometimes when he takes it from the light Bakers, which is likewise a great help when it comes.

What is sent in by the Clerk of the Market, as Chumps of Beef, or any other kinde of provision, and likewise by the Water-bayliff, as unsized Fish, but that very seldom, is (as I told you) exposed to sale as in a Market amongst the Charity-men, by which meanes every man receives a like benefit.

I may conclude this fourth Head with this observable Truth, That all the benefits (I mean of Legacies) formerly given to Prisoners,  
doth



doth not adde to their relief a farthing a day, which is small allowance: And that if it were all bestowed amongst the Prisoners in general, as it should be, it would not amount to a peny day for each man. To come now to

*The Charges to Prisoners at their Entrance and Exits.*

**A** Freeman of London being arrested by Action Entred in either of the *Compters*, may refuse to go to the *Compter* (as is usuall) but may require to go immediately to *Ludgate*, which the Keeper thereof cannot deny to receive into custody, although no *Duce facias* be brought then, but shall afterwards be sent for; which way, (if practised) would save many a pound to poor men, which the Sergeants and yecoman do daily

ly extort from them : But the usual way indeed is to go to the *Compter* being arrested, and take a *Duce*, which costs sixteen pence, and so go to *Ludgate* with the officers, for which service onely they will often exact three, four, or five shillings, sometimes more of a poor man, though their just due is but two pence.

When the officers have brought him to *Ludgate*, the Turnkey takes him into custody upon sight of his *Duce*, and enters his Name and Addition, into a Book kept for that purpose, for which Entrance, (or turning of the Key) the Prisoner pays fourteen pence.

Having paid that, and being turn'd into the Prison, his next work is to fit himself with a Lodging, which is of three sorts, or several rates, and is one penny, two pence,

pence, or three pence per night.

Being furnished by the Chamberlain of the House with lodging, his next payment is for Sheets, which is eighteen pence, and is paid to the said Chamberlain, who is accomptable to the Master-Keeper at a certain rate for the same, whose goods they onely are.

Before he shall repose himself in his new provided Lodging, his Chamber fellowes will acquaint him with a *Garnish* of 4 shillings, to be by him paid, and by them spent, either in *Coals* or *Candles* for their own proper use, or else in a Dinner or Supper, as they can agree; for non-payment of which, though through poverty, or for refusing through obstinacy, his Clothes shall be taken privately from him in the night (or *Mobb'd*, as they call it) which shall be detained

trained by he knows not who, until such time as he hath paid the uttermost farthing.

Having rested one night, he shall the next day be called upon for a due of sixteen pence, which is to be paid to one of the Stewards of the House, and is called *Table-money*, with which *Candles*, &c. is bought for the use of the House, every night set up in places necessary.

These Fees and Dues must be paid by every Prisoner be he never so poor, at his Entrance, amounting in all to eight shillings, which I have particularly mentioned, to undeceive such who think *Ludgate* to be so free a Prison, and that the Fees are small, and the Benefits and Priviledge therein very great, which in their due place I have discovered.

But

But now to administer a word of Instruction to such as desire, (not being brought in upon, nor sued to Execution) to have liberty to go out: It is wrought by two several ways, though by one and the same Engine, *Money*.

He, I say, that would have his liberty, must procure to go either with a Keeper, or else upon Security; In order to which, he must send to each *Compter* to know what Actions are Entred against him, which must be certified under the Clerks hands, and will cost four pence the Search, as much for every Action, and four pence for the Clerks hand to them.

This being done, and that he desires to go out with a Keeper, he must for his first days progress pay two shillings six pence to the Head Turnkey, twelve pence to the

F

Under

Under Turnkey, & eighteen pence to the Keeper that attends upon him, which is also a Prisoner; and twelve pence to the Turnkey, and as much to his Keeper every day of his going out afterwards.

If a Prisoner will go out without such an Attendant, it must be by Security of two men, such whom the Keeper or Turnkeys shall accept of, and judge sufficient, each of them entering into Bond severally, for his true imprisonment, and likewise one other Bond for payment of his Lodging to the Master-keeper; for which the Turnkey takes as his Fee, five shillings at the least, nay, I know some of whom he hath demanded twenty shillings, for his good will to let him out after Bonds sealed, for which the Prisoners must pay too, with some saucy expences to boot,  
and

and what they condition for weekly, must be truly and punctually paid, or he is soon fetch'd in and deprived of Liberty, and his Bond cancell'd and made void.

But supposing a Prisoner to end with his Creditor, and that he bring in his Discharge from each *Compter*, he shall then find to pay at his *Exit*, the several Fees following, *viz.* Two shillings the Master-Keepers Fee, 14 pence the turning of the Key, twelve pence for every Action that lies against him; if he be charged in Execution, then it is two shillings six pence, and as much for every *Writ* that lies against him: these added to his Lodging, proves sometimes as much, or more than the original Debt, and yet perhaps the Creditor never the nearer being satisfied. The justness of taking which



Fees, I refer to the Legislators to consider of.

Having stept thus far into the Discovery of matters, I shall give you likewise an account what the Keeper makes of his Lodgings, and also name you the Chambers as they are called by the Prisoners, and their several Rates, and then give all in one gross Summe : And first to begin with the several Rooms at three pence *per* night, with the number of Beds therein contained, two persons lying in bed for the most part.

*Chambers at 3 d. per night.*

The Star Chamber hath three  
beds for five men                      8 s. 9 d.

The New Chamber four beds,  
14 s.

The Carpenters Chamber hath  
four

*Not what it was.* 69

four beds, 14 s.

Two Hoppets, two beds 7 s.

Another little Hopper, with a  
single bed 1 s. 9.

The Sun Chamber, four beds  
14 s.

The Horn Chamber and the  
Hopper, three beds 10 s. 6 d.

The Chequer Chamber and the  
Hopper, three beds 10 s. 6 d.

---

Weekly, is 4 00 06

*Chambers at 2 d. per night.*

The inner Knights Ward, four  
beds 9 s. 4 d.

The outward Knights Ward,  
three beds 7 s.

The inner Portcullis, four beds  
9 s. 4 d.

The outward Portcullis, three  
beds 7 s.

---

Weekly, is 1 12 8

F 3

*Cham-*

*Chambers or Lodgings at one  
peny per night.*

The Long Ward , twelve beds  
14 s.

The Lumbry, twelve beds 14 s.

The Womens Hole and Hop-  
pet, five beds 5 s. 10 d.

---

Weekly, is 1 13 10

---

The Lodgings at this rate amount  
to seven pound seven shillings  
per week :

And is in a year , Three hundred  
sixty one Pound , fourteen shil-  
lings four pence.

Now if an Objection should be,  
*That there is not so many constant-  
ly, and that sometimes men die, and  
then the money is lost.*

To

To this I answer : That it may, and wil be affirmed, that take those who are abroad upon Security , which likewise pay for their Lodgings, with those that are within, which must pay, that then these beds would not contain them.

And to the second, That when men do dye, and though they be maintained in their sickness, and buried after their deaths by the Charity of the House, yet the Keeper will seize upon whatsoever they have in the House, as clothes, bedding (if they have any ) or other matters, unless he be paid his Lodging-rent by some friend ; A custom not usual, till Covetousness turn'd the Key ; but if a man had been buried at the charge of the House , his clothes were by the Stewards and Assistants exposed to sale amongst the Prison-

ers, and the money for them received was put into the Master of the Box his hand, for repairing the the loss of the Stock by such disbursements.

Having peep'd into every Room in the House, I think I had best step down into the Cellar too, and out of barreils of Beer and Ale, I shall finde the Keeper hath a very considerable Profit running into his purse.

He is the Head-butler of King *Luds* House, onely for his ease he lets it out to another; which is no prisoner, who allows him sixteen shillings a barrel for all the Beer and Ale that is drawn in the Cellar; The Tobacco he meddles not with, but allows that profit to this his Under-butler, with which, it is supposed he findes fire, pipes and Candles, and that I think is all he can do.

What

What he payes a Barrel for his Beer and Ale to the Brewer, I know not, but it is sold to prisoners at a pence a full pot for Beer, and two pence a quart for Ale, though none of the strongest.

His certain weekly draught I know not, but did you but see the Collar how it is dayly throng'd with prisoners and their friends, you would guess it to be about twenty barrels in a week.

Now suppose it so, and that he pays the Brewer 12 shillings a barrel for both, which is as much as it is worth, then this kinde of Trade brings in the Keeper about four pound a week, for which he wets not his finger. This, if constant, comes to 2 hundred and 8 pounds *per* yeare. Now notwithstanding all this, yet such is the covetous

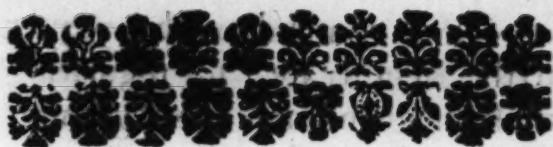
tous cruelty of the Keeper and his Turnkeys, that if any drink be sent to a prisoner by a friend, they will take it away at the door, and give it to such as least want it, and sometimes break the vessels, though perhaps the person it was sent to, is ready to perish for want of a draught of it : I hope he hath no order of the Lord Major and Court of Aldermen for these kinde of practises. Authority I am sure does think that the profit thereof belongs to the prison, but I finde that it is transmitted into *Blackfryers*. This added to his other In-comes by Lodgings, doth amount to betwixt 5 and 600 l. *per annum*, besides his fees at the door which I hope is more then the Conscience of a good Magistrate will suffer to be the annuity of one Goaler onely. I need not trouble my



my self to conclude with a prayer  
to the Magistrate, for regulating  
these things, because the beginning  
supplies that in speciall to the per-  
sons impowered with Authority,  
as well as good Consciences, (I  
hope) to do it: And truly after  
my tedious writing of this *Tragi-  
Comedy*, I think it fit to repose my  
self and Reader with a Song fitted  
to the purpose, compsed by a  
merry Drollist that was lately a  
Prisoner there.

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The



## The SONG.

**T**He Ninth of February, fifty  
and eight,  
For to be Arrested it was my hard  
lot;  
I call'd for a Duce to better my fate,  
Which forc'd me to Ludgate on a  
Sergeants trot.

Where I espy'd a muckle tall man  
Ruffling of Papers in a little room,  
He look'd like a Turnkey, and askt  
me my Name,  
But he read unto me my Fourteen  
pence Doom.

Out of his Pocket he pull'd a great  
Key,

As

## The Song.

As bright as a Pistol, it frightened  
me sore;  
Into a great Room he shew'd me the  
way,  
And for nine months I could scarce  
finde the door.

I walk'd up and down with a sor-  
rowful heart  
At the sight of the Shackles, the  
Bolts, and the Stocks,  
The Pris'ners shew'd me the Cellar  
so dark,  
Which drowned me faster than  
Doors and their Locks:

Where a Crab-footed Tapster star'd  
me in the face,  
He told me a Running-Assistant  
there stood:  
He askt me four Groats for Canales  
and Bread,  
told him I never was us'd to such  
food. An

## The Song.

An old man with a Broom I espy'd  
I'd thought he'd bin going to sweep  
the Streets,

He told me he would me a Lodging  
provide,

But first I must pay eighteen pence  
for my Sheets.

Then I to a Court of Justice was  
call'd,

Thinking some Law or Religion to  
hear, (spread,

Because two Books before him lay  
But alas, they were Orders for  
Pris'ners to fear.

A Garnish then was buzz'd in my  
ear,

With that me thought my Money  
grew scant,

I afterwards found, what I then  
did not fear,

But a Cloak to my back I i'th morn-  
ning did want.

FINIS.